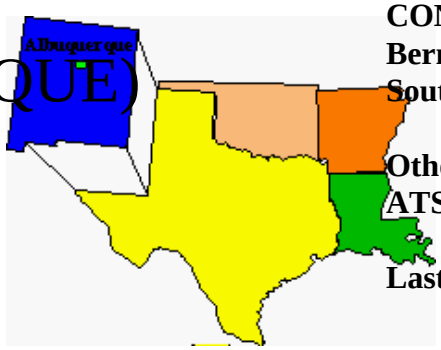
AT&SF (ALBUQUERQUE)

NEW MEXICO

EPA ID# NMD980622864
Site ID: 0600879



EPA REGION 6
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 01
Bernalillo County
South Valley Area

Other Names:
ATSF Tie Treater

Last Update: July 2004

Site Description

Location:
- 3300 Second Street SW in the South Valley area, Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, New Mexico.

Population:
- EPA has identified 15 City of Albuquerque, 3 Kirtland Air Force Base, and 148 private wells within 4 miles of the site that serve an estimated 43,500 people.

Setting:
- The site is an abandoned wood-preserving facility in an industrial area of the South Valley area of Albuquerque.
- Washdown waters, spills and leakage were disposed in an unlined impoundment. The sump & impoundment cover approximately 3.4 acres.
- The “drip-track” area is also an area of contamination for soil & ground water.

Hydrology:
- Depth to ground water is approximately 20 feet.

Present Status and Issues

- The Agency has reached an agreement with the Potentially Responsible Party (PRP), Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) for the Superfund Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RDRA). The settlement includes a Natural Resource Damage settlement and EPA’s past costs. The Consent Decree is expected to be signed in late August 2004 by Department of Justice (DOJ).

- BNSF is continuing to monitor the ground water, and to recover contaminated dense non aqueous phase liquid (DNAPL) from the ground water.

Wastes and Volumes

Wastes:

- Sludge from the impoundment contains hazardous substances including arsenic, lead and creosote constituents (3,4-benzofluoranthene, benzo(a)pyrene, and naphthalene. Toxic isomers of hepta-dioxin and octa-dioxins were detected in very low concentrations in seven samples.
- Soil in the "Sump" area was contaminated with acenaphthylene, anthracene, fluoranthene, and benzo(a)pyrene.

- Ground water from on-site monitoring wells contains 2-methylnaphthalene, naphthalene, phenanthrene, pyrene, acenaphthene, anthracene, benzene, dibenzofuran, ethylbenzene, fluoranthene, and xylenes.

Volumes:

- The waste water (surface) impoundment (identified as the shaded area in the site diagram) is approximately 104,004 square feet in area. The sludges were removed from the surface impoundment on April 30, 1999.
- The waste water sump is approximately 44,100 square feet in area.

Site Assessment and Ranking

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Site HRS Score: 50.00
Proposed Date: 10/14/92
Final Date: 12/16/94
NPL Update: No. 13

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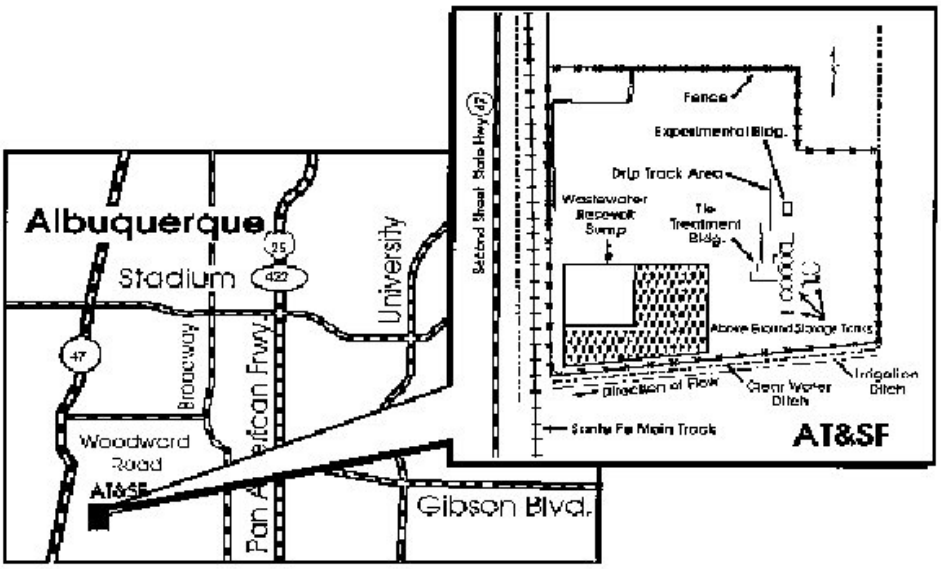

The Remediation Process

Site History:

- The facility has been owned by the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe (AT&SF) Railway company since 1907. In 1996, AT&SF merged with Burlington Northern Railway to form the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company.

● The facility is a former wood treating site which treated various wood products (railroad ties, bridge timbers, fence posts, etc.) with a solution of creosote and oil.

● The site operated from March 1908 to January 1972, at which time it was closed and dismantled.

● Washdown waters, spills and leakage were disposed of in an unlined surface impoundment.

● Site was proposed to the NPL on October 14, 1992, because of a potential threat to ground water.

● AT&SF and EPA signed an Administrative Order on Consent on June 6, 1994 for the performance of the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study.

● In July 1996, AT&SF excavated contaminated soils from the 70 acres north of the northern fence at the site. The soils were consolidated within the fence and will be remediated during the RD/RA.

● A time critical removal was implemented on April 22, 1999, to remove the sludges and contaminated soils in the old impoundment area. 84 railcars of material were removed and transported to the Safety Kleen facility in Lone Mountain, Oklahoma. The total quantity of material removed was 6,012 tons.

● BNSF began recovering DNAPL from the monitoring wells and in the northwest corner of impoundment in July 1999.

● The Proposed Plan of Action was released to the public on February 7, 2002.

● The EPA held a formal public hearing on February 27, 2002 to receive public comments.

● The Proposed Plan comment period ended on April 8, 2002.

Record of Decision

The Record of Decision was signed on June 27, 2002.

Both soil and ground water contamination at the Site will be addressed through the remedial action selected in the ROD. The response action will treat both principal threat wastes and low-level threat wastes. The major components of the selected remedial action consist of:

Soil Remediation

The selected remedy consists of elements of preferred soils alternative S-8, modified to require elements of proposed alternative S-6 for areas of the Site where dense non-aqueous phase liquid (DNAPL) contaminated soil is encountered. This modified soils remedy adopts the approach utilized by EPA for dealing with DNAPL hot spots that is incorporated in the selected ground water remedy below.

- Alternative S-8, in-situ solidification/stabilization, capping, and run-off/run-on management is the selected remedy for contaminated soils above the remediation goals that do not contain DNAPL.

- Alternative S-6, off-site incineration is the selected remedy for those portions of the Site where DNAPL-contaminated soil is encountered during the excavation of soil. This will consist of the excavation of DNAPL-contaminated soils, transportation to an off-site hazardous waste incinerator facility, and incineration of the DNAPL-contaminated soil at such facility.

Ground Water Remediation

The selected remedy for ground water consists of the preferred alternative from the proposed plan which is an aggressive performance-based approach for remediation of contaminated Site ground water. This performance-based approach consists of the following major components:

- Ground water restoration through pumping and treatment and re-injection alternatives GW-2, UV-oxidation treatment, filtration, carbon adsorption and disposal of ground water, GW-3, Biological treatment, clarification, filtration and disposal of ground water, or GW-4, Filtration, clay adsorption, carbon adsorption and disposal of ground water will be accomplished through a performance based approach. Depending upon the outcome of operational performance review and evaluation during the remedial design phase, any one of these alternatives or a combination thereof will actually be implemented during remedial construction. The performance criteria that will determine which of these alternatives will actually be implemented is their ability to meet ground water remediation goals for both the aquifer and the treated ground water.

- DNAPL source removal and hot spot treatment will be accomplished through operational performance based evaluation and review of alternatives GW-5, Steam Flushing, GW-6, Co-solvent alcohol flushing, and GW-7, Oxidation during remedial design, followed by implementation of one of these approaches or a combination thereof with conventional DNAPL recovery methods during remedial construction. The performance criteria that will determine which of these alternatives will actually be implemented is their ability to attain DNAPL mass reduction so that ground water remediation goals for the aquifer are met.

Community Involvement

● Community Involvement Plan: Developed 5/94. Revised 2/02.

● Open houses and workshops: 1/93, 5/94, 3/95, 8/95, 10/97, 9/98, 4/99, 11/99, 10/00, 11/01, 12/01, 2/02.

● Citizens on site mailing list: 485

● Constituency Interest:
- Moderate citizen and elected official interest, organized community groups.
- This site is near South Valley Superfund site.
- Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) awarded to San Jose Community Awareness Council. The period of performance for the grant is now expired.

● An open house was held on November 19, 1999, to discuss the current status of the Site. U.S. Congresswoman Heather Wilson and U.S. Congressman Mike Oxley attended the meeting.

● An availability session was held on October 19, 2000, to discuss the current status of the Site with the local community.

● An availability session was held on November 5, 2000, to discuss the current status of the Site with the local community.

● EPA held an open house on December 18, 2001, to discuss the Remedial Investigation, Feasibility Study and the Proposed Plan of Action.

- The EPA held a formal public hearing on February 27, 2002 to receive public comments on the Proposed Plan.

- Site Repository: Albuquerque Public Library, 501 Copper Ave. N.W., Albuquerque, NM Mexico 87102

Technical Assistance Grant

- Availability Notice: 1/93, 11/94, 1/95, 12/02
- Letters of Intent Received: 1/95
  2nd LOI received on 2/24/04 from Alianza Ambiental New Mexico Center for Environmental Prosperity & Holistic Health
- Final Application Received: 9/95, 3/99
  2ns TAG Application Received:
- Grant Award: 12/15/96, 8/25/99
  2nd TAG Award:
- Budget Periods: 12/15/95-12/14/98, 8/25/99-8/24/02
- Grantee: San Jose Community Awareness Council
  Dolores Herrera, Executive Director
  Albuquerque, NM
- Technical Advisor: Glorieta Geoscience, Inc., Santa Fe, NM
- Current Status: TAG ended as of August 24, 2002.

Contacts

- **Remedial Project Manager (EPA):** Kathleen Aisling, 214-665-6406, or 800-533-3508
- **State Contact:** Susan Morris 505/827-2890
- **Community Involvement Coord. (EPA):** Kathleen Aisling, 214-665-8509, or 800-533-3508
- **Attorney (EPA):** James L. Turner, 214/665-3159, Mail Sta. 6RC-S
- **State Coordinator (EPA):** Kathy Ketcher, 214/665-7196, Mail Sta. 6SF-LT
- **EPA Regional Public Liaison**: Arnold Ondarza, 800-533-3508

Benefits

- Once the remedy is implemented, environmental risk for over 43,000 people within a 4 mile radius will be reduced.

- Removal of creosote contaminated soils and sludges has eliminated a continuing source of contaminants for the ground water.

- The railroad is developing plans to re-use remediated portions of the site to expand an existing automobile unloading facility.